

Continuation patent application of
U.S. Serial No. 10/085,582
Docket No. H07-164273M/NHK
NGB.008CONT

11

REMARKS

Claims 13-31 are all the claims pending in the application. Claims 1-12 have been canceled. No new matter has been added.

With respect to the prior co-pending U.S. application Serial No. 10/085,582, Applicant hereby incorporates the claim of priority from Japanese Application No. 2001-058628, filed on March 2, 2001, and claimed under 35 U.S.C. §119.

The prior application is assigned of record to Hitachi Koki Co., Ltd., at Reel 012661 and Frame 0762.

It is noted that the claim amendments herein are made only for more particularly pointing out the invention, and not for distinguishing the invention over the prior art, narrowing the claims, or for any statutory requirements of patentability.

Further, it is noted that, notwithstanding any claim amendments made herein, Applicant's intent is to encompass equivalents of all claim elements, even if amended herein or later during prosecution.

Early and favorable prosecution on the merits is respectfully requested.

Please charge any deficiencies in fees and credit any overpayment of fees to Attorney's Deposit Account No. 50-0481.

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